

GAU 3739

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K Cooper
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on May 25, 2000
By Kate M



Attorney Docket No. A-2-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
PHILIP E. EGGERS et al.) Examiner: L. Cohen
Application No.: 09/098,205) Art Unit: 3739
Filed: July 27, 1998)
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR)
ELECTROSURGICAL TISSUE)
TREATMENT IN CONDUCTIVE FLUID)

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 29, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 159 and amend claims 90, 102, 138, 141, 143, 144, 146-148, 150-152, 157 and 158 as follows:

90. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 80, wherein the active return electrode is located on a distal end of an instrument shaft, further comprising an insulating matrix on the [probe] instrument shaft between the return electrode and the active electrode [terminal], the insulating matrix comprising an inorganic material.